

ORIGINAL

005823

RECEIVED
Nov 7 3 50 PM '96
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

PRESIDING OFFICER'S
RULING NO. MC96-3/25

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

Special Services Fees and Classifications

Docket No. MC96-3

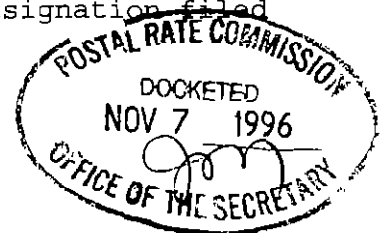
PRESIDING OFFICER'S RULING ON DESIGNATIONS
OF EVIDENTIARY MATERIAL AND OTHER
PROCEDURAL MATTERS

(November 7, 1996)

This ruling establishes the procedure for participants to designate information previously provided by the Postal Service for incorporation into the evidentiary record. The following types of materials may be designated: answers provided by Postal Service witnesses after completing oral cross-examination; answers to discovery requests provided by the Postal Service as an institution; answers to Presiding Officer Information Requests. Participants are to specify the items they wish incorporated, and provide two copies of those items to the Secretary of the Commission on or before November 14, 1996. This material will be incorporated into the November 18, 1996 transcript.¹

On October 23, 1996, a Status Report of United States Postal Service on Implementation of Special Services Reform Proposals was filed. The Postal Service has offered to make a witness

¹ The American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO, designation filed September 4, 1996, will be included at this time.



available to respond to questions on this status report. Participants wishing to question a witness on this topic should provide notice to that effect, either in writing by November 14, 1996, or orally at the November 18, 1996 hearing.² If cross-examination on this topic is requested, it will take place on November 25, 1996.

On several occasions the Postal Service has requested extensions of time to respond to Presiding Officer's Information Requests, most recently on October 18, 1996. Those requests were submitted to allow additional time so that complete responses could be prepared. Those requests are granted.

RULING

1. Materials to be incorporated into the November 18, 1996, transcript should be filed with the Secretary of the Commission on or before November 14, 1996.

2. Participants wishing to question a witness on the Postal Service status report may provide notice to that effect, either in writing by November 14, 1996, or orally at the November 18, 1996 hearing.

² On November 1, 1996, Douglas F. Carlson filed a motion requesting that a witness be made available to clarify possible inconsistencies between the status report and the assumptions relied on by Postal Service witnesses. That request was subsequently withdrawn. Participants seeking clarification of this nature, may include such a request. Such requests should specify areas of perceived potential inconsistencies to facilitate meaningful dialogue, and the Service should endeavor to be prepared to assist in eliminating confusion.

Docket No. MC96-3

- 3 -

3. Outstanding Postal Service requests for extension of time to file responses to Presiding Officer's Information Requests are granted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Edward Quick, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

H. Edward Quick, Jr.
Presiding Officer